

**Pam Gregory**

*Docket No. 06-181*

**From:** Trowbridge, Glenn A CIV NSWCCD W. Bethesda, 5600 [glenn.trowbridge@navy.mil]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 15, 2006 11:07 AM  
**To:** Kevin Martin; Michael Copps; Jonathan Adelstein; Deborah Tate; Robert McDowell  
**Cc:** Monica Desai  
**Subject:** The Federal Communications Commission has sent out over 250 letters granting captioning exemptions! EXEMPTIONS EVEN TO PETITIONERS  
**Importance:** High  
**Follow Up Flag:** Reply  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Chairman and Commissioners:

I've been that the FCC has decided to grant captioning exemptions, even permanent ones to petitioners. I stress that captioning is extremely important tool for the hearing impaired and deaf. It is extremely important they know the discussion, including shows of educational value and especially the news and emergency announcements.

As being hearing impaired for 41 years; I know how difficult it is to understand (**especially those who are unable to wear hearing aids**) what is discussed and I value captioning immensely. If you decide to go ahead with these exemptions, I will be extremely disappointed.

Perhaps one day, one of you may get a child or a grandson or granddaughter that became hearing impaired and deaf. On the other hand, later in life, you may even lose your hearing. Then if you make the decision on doing this, I hope you look back and regret the decision you made.

Glenn A. Trowbridge

NSWC, Carderock Division

Code 5600

**FILED/ACCEPTED**

**OCT 19 2006**

*Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary*

9/20/2006

**Pam Gregory**

Docket No. 06-181

**From:** Twohies@aol.com

**Sent:** Thursday, September 14, 2006 11:52 PM

**To:** Kevin Martin

**Cc:** Michael Copps; Jonathan Adelstein; Monica Desai; Robert McDowell; Deborah Tate

**Subject:** FCC ruling on closed captioning - Please re-consider

Dear FCC Chairman Kevin Martin,

Your decision on September 11, 2006 giving exemptions for captioning under 47 C.F.R. 79.1 is simply unacceptable and dangerous. Once you grant exceptions like this one, other special interest groups will ask for the same - limiting the world considerably for hearing loss and deaf people. You have started the proverbial landslide.

I strongly encourage you to re-consider this ruling immediately and re-institute closed captioning.

Thank you

Mary Sue Twohy

7904 Long Branch Parkway #2  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
240-274-2893

**FILED/ACCEPTED**

**OCT 19 2006**

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

9/20/2006

**Pam Gregory***Docket 06-181***From:** Kathryn Terhune Cotton [extraears@hotmail.com]**Sent:** Thursday, September 14, 2006 5:50 PM**To:** *Monica Desai***Subject:** Exempting religious organizations from CC**FILED/ACCEPTED****OCT 19 2006**Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

Dear Ms. Desai

I'm writing to express my outrage at the FCC allowing religious organizations exemption from closed captioning their programs.

I don't know why it should be a continuous uphill battle at every turn for the hearing impaired community to win small victories. Then to add insult to injury, these small wins are often yanked away randomly and in a clandestine manner. It may sound like an exaggeration, but I can't help but think of Hitler's attempt to wipe out the disabled. By continually having our rights whittled away by the very government agencies that finally granted us our due, it is beginning to feel like a campaign to make everyone who needs any form of accommodation to live to the fullest like persona non grata! It is just plain wrong.

You should also bear in mind that anyone – yourself or someone you love – can, just as randomly end up as a member of our club at any given second. Then you will have a full appreciation of just how necessary certain accommodations really are.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Terhune Cotton

520 Pacific Ave

Springfield, OR 97477

**Kat, K.C., hearing dog extraordinaire & Wynne, mobility service wonder dog**

9/20/2006

Pam Gregory

Docket 06-181

**From:** loutouchette@cox.net  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 14, 2006 6:18 PM  
**To:** Monica Desai  
**Cc:** Touchette, Lou  
**Subject:** Closed Captioning of religious services

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 19 2006

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

Dear Ms. Desai:

Having lost most of my hearing, I have grown entirely dependent upon **Closed Captioning** as a means of survival in this world. If it weren't for Closed Captioning on television, I'd be totally cut off from the outside world. I use it to follow the news, to participate in televised **religious services** in addition to enjoying other forms of televised entertainment. Perhaps the single most important use of the Closed Captioning to me, is the ability to worship via televised services.

I am horrified to read that our government is contemplating removing the requirement to caption **religious services**. What is wrong with our country, Ma'am? Our government has removed the Ten Commandments, prayer from our schools, and is now even looking into removing "God" from the Pledge of Allegiance! And now it is wanting to deny me the most basic of rights, **THE FREEDOM TO WORSHIP** by eliminating my only means of enjoying worship which is via televised Closed Captioned church services.

Please Ma'am, I implore you to do all within your power to put a stop to this current plan to cut of the requirement to have religious services closed captioned.

Sincerely,

**Louis A. Touchette**  
**687 W. One Wood Place**  
**Green Valley, AZ 85614**  
**(520) 625-9536 (Home)**

9/20/2006

Pam Gregory

Docket 06-181

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 19 2006

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary**From:** Talley, Gary W. [Gary.Talley@vddhh.virginia.gov]**Sent:** Thursday, September 14, 2006 2:09 PM**To:** Kevin Martin; Michael Copps; Jonathan Adelstein; Deborah Tate; Robert McDowell**Cc:** Monica Desai**Subject:** FCC Captioning exemptions

Dear Chairman and Commissioners:

Unlike many people in my community, I am not surprised at the lack of consideration for those of us with hearing disabilities, and all the support for businesses. It is typical of this administration. First, it was the closing of the region offices for Rehabilitation Services Administration. Now, it seems that much of the funding for rehab will be merged into the regular budgets for training the non-disabled, further widening the gap of employment for people with disabilities. If I had not learned to sign, I would not be employed, and I was very lucky to find one of the few jobs out there to allow me to return to work after becoming deaf. I lost my hearing nearly four years ago, and I depend on captioning for the news and entertainment. It is bad enough that local news stations are not required to caption all of their news broadcasts. With "breaking news" broadcast live from the scene of the crime, I never know what is happening, because only what is on the teleprompters is captioned for local news; not weather and not sports and not "breaking news". How will I ever find out what may be a danger to me if you allow these exemptions to stand? These stations have had TEN YEARS to prepare for this requirement, and you don't even have the guts to make it a public announcement, but you hide it in the "public reference room" website.

SHAME ON YOU!!

9/20/2006

Pam Gregory

Docket 06-181

OCT 19 2006

**From:** Pete Trimmer [PTrimmer@hearingloss.org]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 14, 2006 10:39 AM  
**To:** Kevin Martin; Michael Copps; Jonathan Adelstein; Deborah Tate; Robert McDowell; Monica Desai  
**Cc:** FCCINFO  
**Subject:** So this is how you celebrate September 11th?

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

Dear FCC,

I have two newly adopted children, one uses a hearing aid and the other a newly implanted Cochlear Implant. They are both learning to read English. My wife is a reading teacher for deaf children. Captions are vital. They are vital not just for our family, but for accessibility for anyone with a hearing loss.

Do you not wish the deaf and hard of hearing to have access to church services? Do you believe that the disabled should not be allowed to practice their religion because of their disability?

The citation of cost as a problem is ridiculous. One company charges \$200 for a 1/2 hour captioning for churches. If a church cannot afford that then they cannot afford to broadcast their services. They have had 10 years to put this service in their budgets.

You are, no doubt on purpose, opening the door to a stream of exemptions.

My son watches a fishing show instead of cartoons on Saturday mornings. He love to read the names of the different fish that are caught. Without captions he could not take such joy in watching TV. Without captions he would not be so interested in reading. Will low budget outdoor shows be the next exemption?

I understand the your chairmanship has just changed. Why has the agenda and purpose of your committee changed? Do Republicans wish to deny access to religious programming for the deaf and hard of hearing? If you think this puts a hardship or burden on the churches, think about the burden of being unable to hear.

I hope that you will have a change of heart and not just hear us, but listen.

Pete Trimmer

Kenneth L. Hill

Docket 06-181

**From:** Yenter Tu [LeTu2854@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 02, 2006 9:42 AM  
**To:** Monica Desai  
**Subject:** Re: DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 19 2006

October 2, 2006

FCC Chief, Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau Monica Desai

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

Dear Monica Desai,

*I protest the FCC approval of almost 300 requests for new programs to be shown without closed captions.*

*The FCC weakened the closed captioning rules, and appears to have created new standards and new rules for permitting programs to be televised without closed captions. I believe the FCC violated the closed captioning rules.*

*People who are deaf or hard of hearing want access to televised information and entertainment, just like everyone else.*

*Closed captioning is an essential part of any televised program. Captioning is not too difficult or too expensive.*

*I cannot watch television programs that are not captioned.*

*Please reconsider these FCC decisions and support closed captioning.*

Sincerely,

Yenter Tu  
PO Box 92053  
Lafayette, LA 70509-2053